

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on January 30, 2007, in which claims 1-18 and 24-41 were rejected and claims 19-23 were allowed. With this amendment, claims 1-18 and 24-41 are cancelled without prejudice. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present Application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

I. Allowed Subject Matter

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 19-23 were allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowance and have not amended the allowed claims.

II. Rejected Claims

On pages 2-4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-18 and 24-41 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,858,020 alone or in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0149486. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-18 and 24-41 without prejudice to obtain timely issuance of a patent containing claims reciting subject matter that the Examiner has indicated is allowable. Applicant wishes to make it unmistakably clear that Applicant does not agree to or acquiesce in the rejection of the cancelled claims and/or agree with the Examiner's view of the view of the scope and content of the prior art.

III. Conclusion

Claims 19-23 are now pending in the present Application. Applicant believes that the present Application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

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By /Jeffrey S. Gundersen/

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 26371
Telephone: (414) 297-5897
Facsimile: (414) 297-4900

Jeffrey S. Gundersen
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 47,619